## Fruits Basket

The #1 selling shojo manga in America!

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Maisula Talogo

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TOWNER.

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12

Missia Thay

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The world's most popular shojo manga continues... With the beginning of the school year approaching, the gang returns from summer break—and what a vacation indeed! A new student council has been assembled, with two new secretaries: Naohito, who has declared himself Yuki's rival, and Kimi, who is known as a devil woman—and a thief of men's hearts. Later, when Tohru goes to see her grandfather, he brings up a part of Tohru's past that she had tried to shut away. And with parent-teacher conferences on the horizon, Mayuko gives Shigure some good advice.











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### Truits Basket

Volume 12



Natsuki Takaya

### STORY SO FAR...

Hello, I'm Tohru Honda and I have come to know a terrible secret. After the death of my mother, I was living by myself in a tent, when the Sohma family took me in. I soon learned that the Sohma family lives with a curse! Each family member is possessed by the vengeful spirit of an animal from the Chinese Zodiac. Whenever one of them becomes weak or is hugged by a member of the opposite sex, they change into their Zodiac animal!



## Truits Basket

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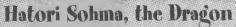
#### Fruits Basket Characters



Mabudachi Trio

Shigure Sohma, the Dog

Enigmatic, mischievous and a little perverted. A popular novelist.



Family doctor to the Sohmas. Only thing he can't cure is his broken heart.





#### Ayame Sohma, the Snake

Yuki's older brother. A proud and playful drama queen...er, king. Runs a costume shop.

#### Saki Hanajima

"Hana-chan." Can sense people's "waves." Goth demeanor scares her classmates.

#### Arisa Uotani

"Uo-chan." A toughtalking "Yankee" who looks out for her friends





#### Tohru Honda

The ever-optimistic hero of our story. An orphan, she now lives in Shigure's house, along with Yuki and Kyo, and is the only person outside of the family who knows the Sohma family's curse.

#### Yuki Sohma, the Rat

Soft-spoken. Self-esteem issues.
At school he's called "Prince Yuki."



# T

#### Kyo Sohma, the Cat

The Cat who was left out of the Zodiac. Hates Yuki, leeks and miso. But mostly Yuki.



Bashful, yet headstrong. Determined to marry Kyo, even if it kills him.



#### Fruits Basket Characters

#### Isuzu "Rin" Sohma, the Horse

She has the hots for Shigure...and Tohru leaves her rather cold. Rin is full of pride, and she can't stand the amount of deference the other Sohma family members give Akito.



#### Ritsu Sohma, the Monkey

This shy kimono-wearing member of the Sohma family is gorgeous. But this "she" is really a he!! Crossdressing calms his nerves.



The head of the Sohma clan. A dark figure of many secrets. Treated with fear and reverence





#### Hiro Sohma, the Ram (or sheep)

This caustic tyke is skilled at throwing verbal barbs, but he has a soft spot for Kisa.

#### Momiji Sohma, the Rabbit

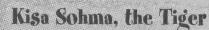
Half-German. He's older than he looks. Mother rejected him because of the Sohma curse.





#### Hatsuharu Sohma, the Ox

The nicest of guys, except when he goes "Black." Then you'd better watch out.



Kisa became shy and self-conscious due to constant teasing by her classmates. Yuki, who has similar insecurities, feels particularly close to Kisa.









Filler sketch



















WHAT'S

STRANGE

ABOUT



#### Fruits Basket 12 Part 1:

Hailmemashite and konnichiwa! I'm Takaya. Are you doing well? I have a cold with a slight fever, so I have even less time than usual. Groooan... If you please. This is Furuba volume 12. 12 ... That's amazing! Ah, for those of you who are reading for the first time starting with 12, I wonder if you thought that Ritsu. who's on the cover, was a woman? I understand that there were some people who thought Aaya on volume 9 was a woman, so I think it's quite likely. Somehow, I didn't hesitate to let him wear a furisode\*. So, without further

#### Let's continue volume 12!

\* formal long-sleeved kimono worn by unmarried women

ado...

















































IT MIGHT NOT EVEN BE POSSIBLE TO BREAK IT.

...I TRULY WOULD DESERVE TO BE PUNISHED.









## Mitchan



Just because the cover is Ritchan (laugh). His honey. Her name is Mitsuru, but I haven't decided on a surname. When she first saw him, she was slightly attracted to Shigure, but now she strongly, deeply regrets that. Now she thinks he's evil...

Shigure makes her go to all that trouble to come get his manuscripts just to kill time. He really is evil!

There are some heartwarming (?) episodes left between her and Ritchan, but now that the main story has progressed so tar, there might not be time to draw them...













































## Motoko Minagawa



Motoko "Yuki is my life!" Minagawasan. I predicted this, but when she first showed up, I got a lot of letters from people saying they hated her. One of my favorite letters said, "She's the rival, so why do you draw her so pretty?" Of course, I enjoy drawing Motoko. Well, basically, I enjoy drawing girls (laugh). So, you go, Motoko!







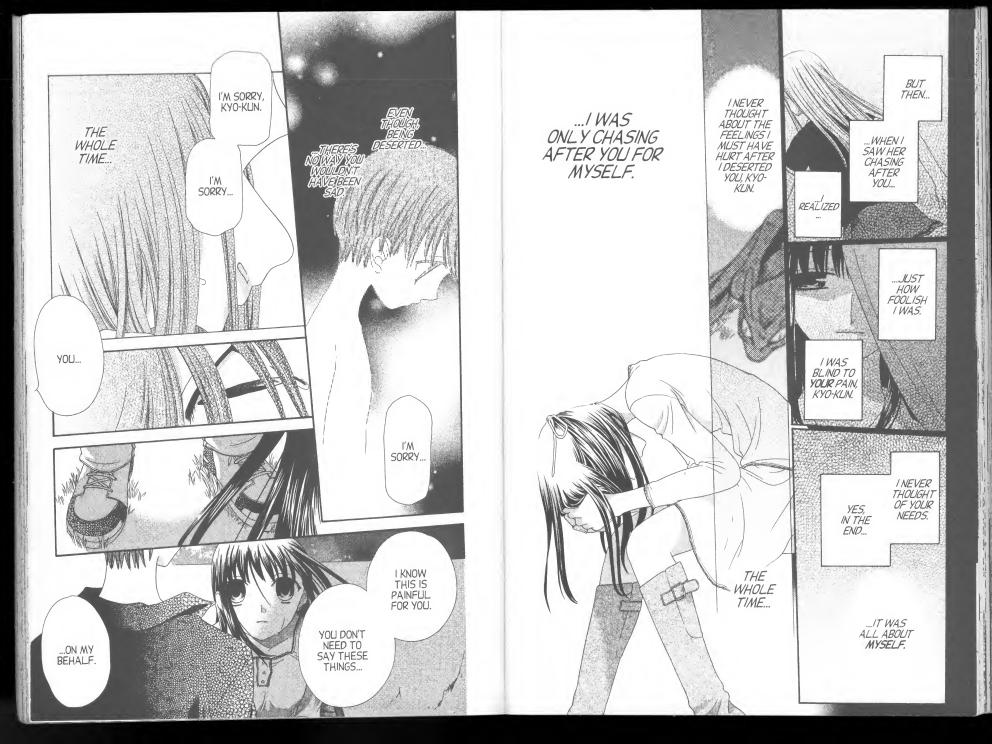
























AT THAT TIME, PART OF ME KNEW...

...THAT I'D NEVER BE ABLE TO TRULY GET CLOSE TO YOU.

> BUT I STILL...



...TRIED TO CONVINCE MYSELF THAT I COULD CLOSE THE SPACE BETWEEN US,









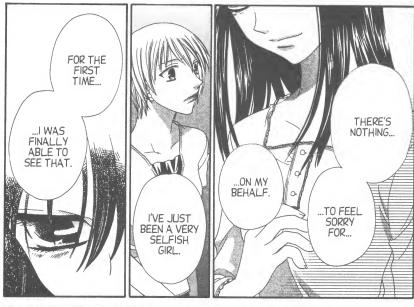
















Filler Sketch



YOU STAYED BY ME UNTIL I STOPPED CRYING. AT LEAST UNTIL... JUST YOU, KYO-KUN. ...THIS NIGHT IS OVER. BE MINE ALONE...





Filler Sketch







Mio Yamagishi



Well, I drew Motoko, so let's do Mio while I'm at it (laugh). Mio is the lowestranking and most docile member of the Prince Yuki Club, but I think she may also be the slyest. Kind of like, "When I'm gonna do it, I'm gonna do it, even if I have to drag others down!" (Do what?) But really... I think I wrote this before, but when Mio becomes the president of Pri-Yuki, Yuki will have already graduated! ...What will she do? (laugh)













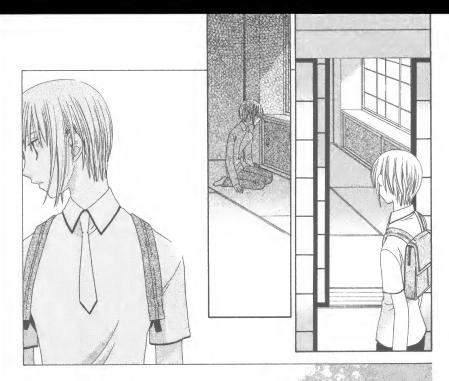
































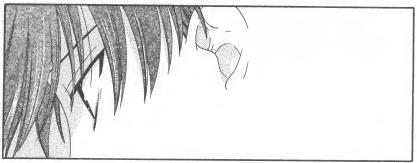




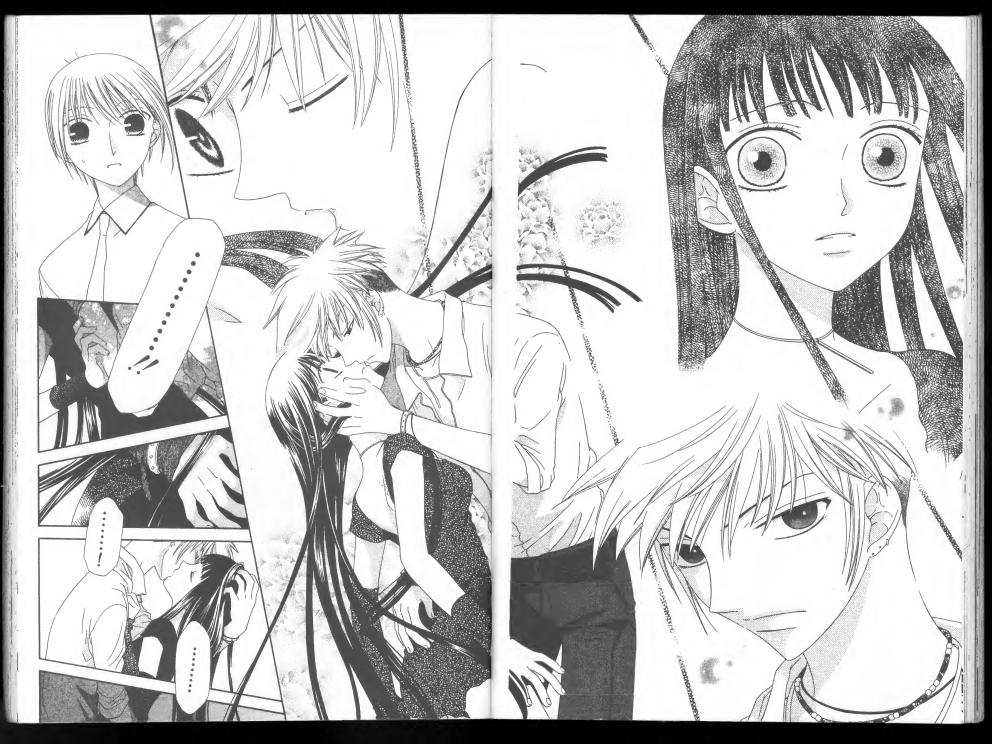












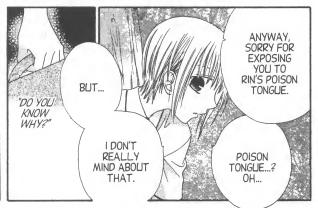


### 2-D iendfrays



It sounds like a name for a comedy duo... When I started drawing students in the background of school scenes, before I knew it, this miracle pair became the main classmates. But they don't have names. (They're all like that.) I get a lot of letters saying, "Tohru's class really gets along," and I think, "Yup! They really do." If it's a classroom that seems to welcome people with open arms, it's not scary to enter it.











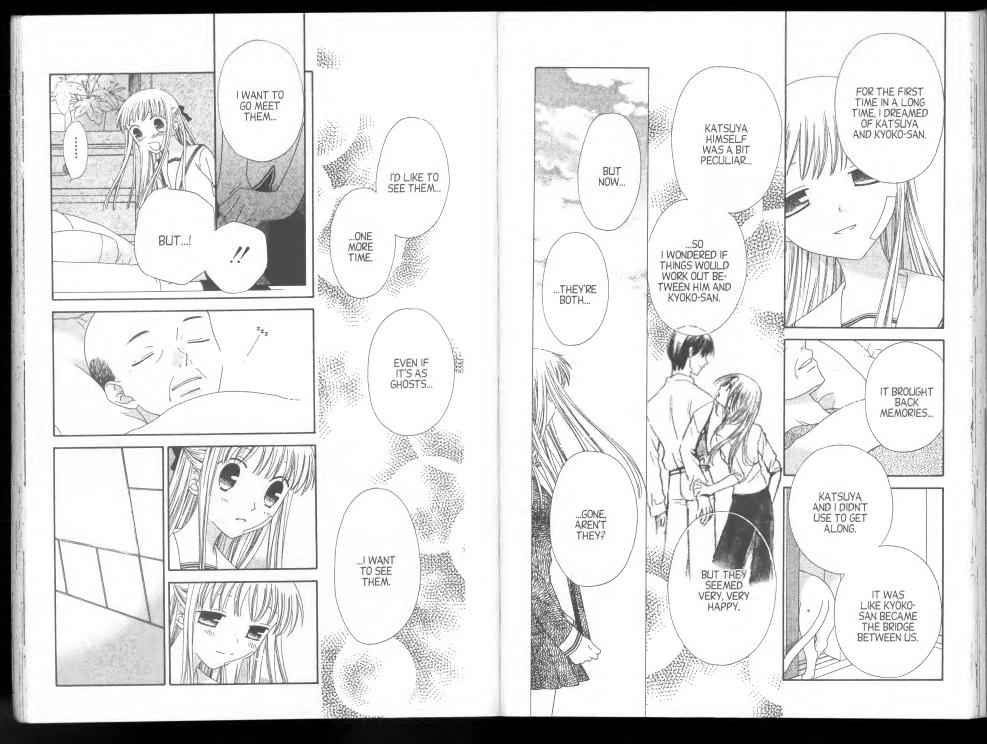






































I feel so grateful!

Harada-sama, Araki-sama, Mother, Father and everyone who reads and supports this manga, thank you so much for your support!

Next is the one about whom I've gotten letters asking, "Is she the character in charge of sexiness?" Yup. It's Rin.

-Natsuki Takaya





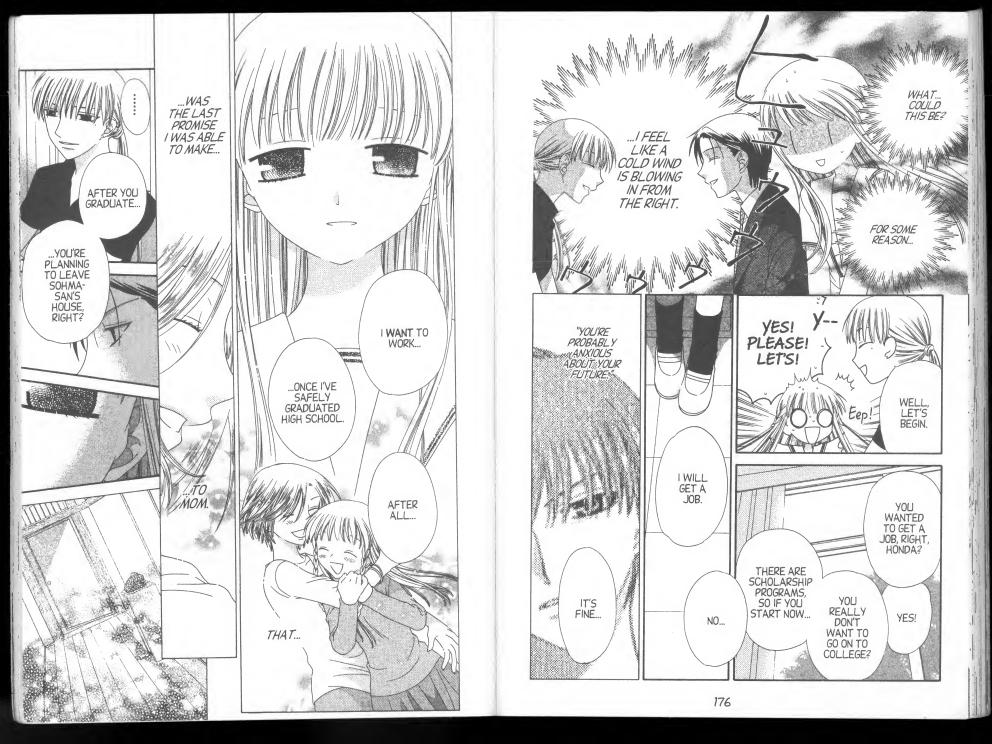
















# A story for here alone.

I got a letter saying, "We miss hearing about your lite!"

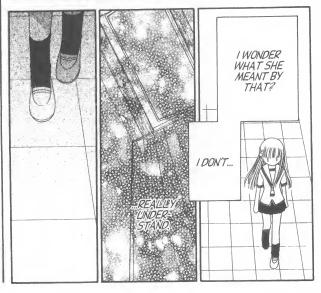
So...a short return. I'm sorry, but really, not much has changed. I work, play video games, sometimes go to see plays or movies, get sick, go back to work ... this is my life.

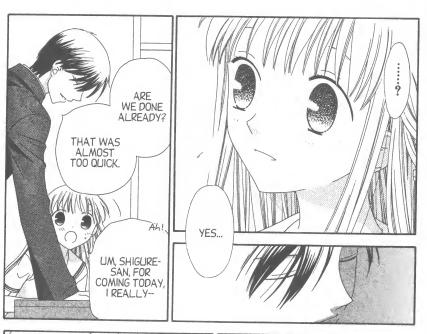
Oh yeah...When I was playing games earlier, and tried wearing headphones, I was really surprised. There were sounds I had never heard before! I guess my TV just has really bad speakers. I was so shocked that I dug out some of my old games and tried playing all of them again with headphones. There were so many sounds I didn't know about! (sob)

... Such is my life.























































## Next time in...



#### Yuki Takes a Stand...

The time for Yuki's parent-teacher conference has finally arrived, and Yuki's mother has already decided his future for him, because apparently Yuki can't decide for himself. While Yuki struggles to get a word in, Ayame shows up and ruffles many a feather. Meanwhile, Tohru goes on a quest to find out if Kureno Sohma is *the* Kureno that Arisa has been in love with all this time. Along the way, Tohru meets Momo--Momiji's little sister, who is tragically not allowed to talk with her big brother. Later, while on a class trip to Kyoto, a girl confesses to Kyo that she's in love with him! How will Kyo react? More importantly, how will Tohru feel about this?

Fruits Basket Volume 13 Available April 2006



### Year of the Monkey: Chimps Ahoy!



often become discouraged by the littlest hint of criticism—as in the case of Ritsu Sohma dressing like a girl.

Personality wise, Monkeys are very charming and energetic individuals that crave to be the center of attention. However, being an endless fun seeker has its drawbacks in that they are highly self-indulgent and often prone to temptation. Remaining vigilant and keeping the old saying "hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil" in mind might, just end up being a lifesaver.

Ladies born in this year tend to be very glamorous and enjoy keeping themselves neatly dressed. They are very particular about their hair, but can be excessive when it comes to cosmetics. Though easily agreeable and fun loving, ladies of this year are perfectionists and very vocal. They will never settle down with a partner unless they are evenly matched and challenged.

#### Celebrity Monkeys:

Gillian Anderson Kim Cattrall Geena Davis Eliza Dushku Carrie Fisher Justin Timberlake Naomi Watts Elijah Wood

# Monkey

Years: 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004,

2016, 2028, 2040

Positive Qualities: Inventive, Entertaining,

Opportunist, Popular, Versatile

Grievances: Distrusting, Easily Discouraged Suttable Jobs: Financial Adviser, Banker.

Actor, Comedian

Compatible With: Dragons, Rats

Must Avoid: Tigers

Ruling Hours: 3 PM to 5 PM

Season: Summer Ruling Month: August

Sign Direction: West-Southwest

Fixed Element: Metal

Corresponding Western Stan: Leo

Whether swinging from trees or learning sign language, Monkeys are truly the unpredictable gentuses of the Chinese Zodiac. Given an infinite amount of Monkeys, mathematician Brett Watson and the late author Douglas Adams might just be right in assuming that Monkeys could bash out a script for Hamlet one of these days. Afterall, Monkeys do have an uncanny "Monkey see, Monkey do ability whenever it comes to mimicking what humans do. For anyone born in the Year of the Monkey, the ninth cycle of the Chinese Zodiac, they will be blessed with the Monkey's undying curiosity and magnetic personality.

Clever to the core, Monkeys are quite intelligent and imaginative enough to come up with innovative new ways of doing daily tasks. Monkeys have an almost natural-born ability to see through difficult problems or even financial matters with relative ease, In fact, whenever money is concerned, Monkeys are perfectly suited to be stock brokers, bankers and financial advisors. Unfortunately, the Monkey's easy success has its price; they tend to be easily confused and

<sup>\*</sup> Note: It is important to know what day Chinese New Year's was held on as that changes what Zodiac animal you are. Example: 1980 actually began on February 16 and anyone born before that date is actually a Sheep.